CALPEEK

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

P.O. BOX 1468, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90213 (213) 659-0205
Dick Rosengarten, Publisher

VOL. XIII
No. 34

SEP 16, 1991

REMAPPING WARS: UTTER CONFUSION & CHAOS. Editor's note: Cancel all bets. Many insiders think the CA Legislature will still be working on a REAPPORTIONMENT plan long after the Sept. 13th deadline. Information as to what plans are IN and what plans are OUT are changing by the hour. So CALPEEK will analyze the situation as it stands at our deadline time (9/10) and give you our best "guesstimates" about numbers. We'll hold back on districts and lawmakers until next week...

...The best way to start is to give you the current numbers for House, State Senate and Assembly --- and then COMPARE those to what CALPEEK sources say are reasonable numbers. You'll also note that there is a RANGE for 1992. That's because the numbers are very flexible and are still up in the air due to "horse trading" behind closed doors...

	Current	Proposed for '92
U.S. House	26(D)	24-28(D)
(45)	19(R)	(52) 24-26(R)
CA Senate	26(D)	21-23(D)
(40)	13(R)	15-17(R)
	1(I)	2(I)
CA Assemb.	47(D)	42-44(D)
(80)	33(R)	36-38(R)

...Statewide, GOP voter registration is UP close to 40%, while Demo registration has DROPPED to just under 50%. So the most obvious thing is that GOP numbers in the U.S. House, CA Senate and CA Assembly have to INCREASE, otherwise reapportionment is headed for the courts - which many sources feel will occur regardless of what happens during the next 48 or more hours...

...The only plan which has come out so far that is considered REALISTIC is the one produced by the CA State Senate, under the direction of Senate Pres. David Roberti(D) and GOP Leader Ken Maddy. The current maps are close to the final plan, sources say...

...In the Assembly, Speaker Willie Brown(D) has been HIT for the way he and his staff have presented their remapping plans. And the criticism isn't just from Republicans. Bottomline here is that Brown is having trouble deciding which Demos will have to BITE THE DUST. Somehow Brown must REDUCE Assembly Demos to 42 to 44 members from the current 47 in order to have a viable plan. That's not easy OR enjoyable...

...If an Assembly remap can be worked out, sources believe the U.S. House plan should fall into place without much trouble. The only hangup is deciding how many seats in total will go to Demos and Republicans. CA Gov. Pete Wilson, who probably will veto the entire package anyway and take his chances in court, wants a 26-26 split in House seats. House Demos are hoping for a 27-25 split. There's another 24-24 plan, with 4 swing seats, but that's not popular with Republicans. Sources say Brown and Roberti might just give Wilson what he wants IF he plays ball on the other parts of the remapping plan...

...Are there big LOSERS yet? Yes and mostly on the Demo side, because they are the ones who have to give up seats. We'll know more next week, but the betting is that Demo Assemblyman Tom Hayden of Santa Monica WON'T be a happy camper...

...FYI: State Sen. Bill Greene(D-L.A.) will NOT seek reelection. Best bet is that Assemblywoman Terry Hughes(D-L.A.) will run for his seat. That's no secret, as she has been raising money for this senate run all summer. Also State Sen. Rose Ann Vuich(D-

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Dinuba) will RETIRE at the end of the year. Serious health problems. It was thought that Bill Jones(R-Fresno) would run for her seat, but he's the new GOP Assembly Leader, so those bets are off. Ditto Demo Assemblyman Bruce Bronzan of Fresno. Under the new remap, Vuich's district will be 46% GOP and only 43.2% Demo. Before it was a 50% Demo district. Stay tuned...

SAN DIEGO MAYOR'S RACE DRAWS STRONG FIELD.
Editor's note: With incumbent San Diego Mayor Maureen O'Connor stepping down at the end of her term in 1992, the contest to replace her is already beginning. Here is a CALPEEK report and update...

...The contest to replace O'Connor already has four solid contenders. On Sept. 17th political observers will be analyzing the results of the city council elections where incumbent Ron Roberts, who makes no bones about his mayoral ambitions, is expected to MASH community activist Rich Grosch. A strong win by Roberts should cause his political stock to CLIMB...

...And then there is San Diego County Sup. Susan Golding. Her campaign is called The Juggernaut, and she's already hired a number of consultants, including George Gorton and Dresner, Sykes, plus Tom Shepard from the Primacy Group. Don't look for O'Connor to help Golding. They hate each other...

...The third major contender is former S&L executive/builder Tom Carter, a 51-year-old Democrat who is well-like in San Diego, especially by the business community. He's on the Board of Childrens' Hospital and is a member of the Center City Development Corp., which oversees the downtown redevelopment. Carter announced last week that he has formed an exploratory committee and he has hired consultant Luke Bright from Mendocino to run his campaign. He's supposedly a good fundraiser, but the S&L and development background might hurt him...

...If there is a slow growth candidate, it is Peter Navarro, a UC Irvine professor who heads a group called PLAN - Prevent Los Angelization Now. Navarro and his backers just qualified a ballot measure for June of 1992 that will set up new construction and building standards in San Diego. PLAN also bought $40,000 in TV time to push the ballot measure. The spot was produced by consulant Bill Wachob and The Campaign Group. So with all this activity, insiders say it looks like Navarro will soon join the race officially. Stay tuned...

COLLINS & CONROY EXPECTED TO WIN SPECIALS.
For those who forgot, there are two special elections set for Tuesday, Sept. 17 to fill OPEN seats in the State Assembly. In the 5th A.D. in Sacto & Placer Counties, GOP moderate B.T. Collins is favored to win because there is NO Demo opponent. He will fill out the unexpired term of Tim Leslie, who is now in the State Senate. In Orange Co., the favorite is conservative hardliner Mickey Conroy, who faces Demo Gregory Ramsay. If things remain confused and undecided up in Sacto, these guys may even get to vote before the session ends...

SALES TAX HIKE FOR SAN MATEO CO. ON BALLOT.
We'll soon see if the recent State sales tax hike in Calif. will have an impact at the local level when San Mateo Co. voters go to the polls Nov. 5. Measure A is a proposed 1/2 cent sales tax increase to raise $40 million for county SCHOOLS. Measure A is on the ballot due to the recent passage of SB 482, which Gov. Pete Wilson signed into law. The campaign in favor of Measure A will be handled by Godbe Communications, with Rachelle Walter handling daily coordination. Bryan Godbe's first poll shows support for the tax hike is split among high propensity voters. Stay tuned...

HOUSING SEC. KEMP AT COMMONWEALTH CLUB.
U.S. Housing & Urban Development Secretary Jack Kemp will address the Commonwealth Club of CA, 11:45 a.m., Sept. 27, Grand Ballroom, Hilton Hotel, S.F. Kemp's speech is titled "A Conservative War on Poverty." For info (415)597-6705...

L.A. COUNCILMAN RIDLEY-THOMAS AT FORUM.
"Agenda for the 8th District" is the topic of an informal discussion with L.A.'s new councilman from the 8th District, Mark Ridley-Thomas, sponsored by the L.A. Current Affairs Forum, 6 p.m. reception, 7 p.m. dinner, Oct. 1, Andre's Restaurant, Beverly Hills. This event is co-sponsored by GTE Calif. For info, call Emma Schafer at (213)445-8862...

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STATE SEN. WATSON SAYS SHE'LL RUN FOR L.A. CO. SUPERVISOR REGARDLESS OF HAHN'S PLANS. 1992 is already shaping up to be a BIG year in terms of L.A. County politics. No more of this ho-hum stuff. State Sen. Diane Watson(D-L.A.) turned up the fire last week by saying that she planned to run for the 2nd supervisorial district next year --- regardless of whether 71-year-old Kenneth Hahn filed for reelection. Hahn is currently in his 10th term on the Board of Supervisors, representing such communities as Carson, Compton, Culver City, Gardena, Hawthorne, Inglewood, Lawndale, Lynwood and a large chunk of L.A. City...

...If Hahn were to retire, Watson would find herself in a very crowded primary next June. CALPEEK sources have IDed at least 3 other well-known and well-connected Black politicians who would love to replace Hahn on the powerful board. The list includes: U.S. Rep. Julian Dixon; former congresswoman Yvonne Brathwaite Burke; and U.S. Rep. Maxine Waters, who was just elected to the House in 1990...

...CALPEEK sources close to Waters say that if Hahn were to retire, she'd DEFINITELY give up her new congressional seat to run. Why, after waiting all these years to be in congress, would she do this? Most sources agree that Maxine is NOT a happy camper because D.C. is 3,000 miles away from the action. In addition, she no longer enjoys the power she once had as a top lieutenant to Demo Assembly Speaker Willie Brown...

...What about Gardena Councilman Mas Fukai, who has been Hahn's top deputy for years; or L.A. Councilman Nate Holden? Would either of these men run? Fukai yes; Holden maybe. Sources think Holden still has his heart set on replacing Tom Bradley as mayor of Los Angeles...

...Regardless, in a 5 or 6 way race with Watson, Dixon, Burke, Fukai and Holden, some insiders rate Waters as an early favorite among this field...

...BUT if Hahn decides to run again, it's likely that Dixon, Waters and Burke WON'T challenge the incumbent supervisor. In fact, Waters says she'll back Hahn over Watson. Could Watson upset Hahn???

...Hahn's health is not what it use to be; he's confined to a wheelchair after suffering a stroke in 1987. So make no mistake, HEALTH is an issue. If Hahn were to run and win, and then become unable to serve, Gov. Pete Wilson would have the power to appoint a replacement - thus putting control of the board back under CONSERVATIVE leadership...

...And Hahn may have made a MAJOR mistake in NOT backing most Black leaders in the area by calling for the resignation of LAPD Chief Daryl Gates in light of the Christopher Commission Report. Hahn also has been relucant to criticize L.A. Co. Sheriff Sherman Block and his department, which like the LAPD, is now the focus of some sharp criticism for excessive force, especially against Blacks and Hispanics. Hispanics now comprise a large and growing force in Hahn's district...

...Bottomline: the issues are present to give Watson a shot, but make no mistake, Hahn has built up years of good will in the 2nd and would still be difficult to defeat. We'll know more in October, when Hahn is supposed to disclose his future political plans. Stay tuned...

1992 U.S. SENATE RACES: SOME ODDS & ENDS. Editor's note: Here's an update on some recent developments about the two U.S. Senate contests here in Calif...

- DANNEMEYER ADDS CONSULTANTS - U.S. Rep. Bill Dannemeyer(R) has hired media consultant and former TV news exec. Roger Scott. He'll handle news/media relations. To bolster his fundraising, Dannemeyer has hired veteran GOP fundraiser Lynn Bryan. The day-to-day management is under the command of Maureen Werft...

...A videotape about Dannemeyer and produced by camapign chair H.L. Richardson is now being distributed Statewide. A Sacto BEE story by Amy Chance notes the video attempts to soften Dannemeyer's image and thus broaden his appeal to GOP voters...

- HERSCHENSOHN WINS KEY BACKING - Some 24 members of the GOP Assembly Caucus have endorsed Bruce Herschensohn for U.S. Senate. GOP Assembly Leader Bill Jones is NOT on the list, but former leaders Ross Johnson and Pat Nolan are. It's a very impressive list...

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HERSCHENSOHN TO ADDRESS L.A. PA OFFICERS. Bruce Herschensohn, a GOP candidate for the U.S. Senate seat now held by Demo Alan Cranston, will address the L.A. Public Affairs Officers' Assn., 11:30 a.m. reception, 12 noon luncheon, Sept. 30, Mayfair Hotel in L.A. For info (818)302-1990. Herschensohn will discuss "Initiatives for the 90s."...

MAJOR DEMOCRATIC PARTY ACTIVITY IN CALIF. THIS WEEK, COMPLETE WITH TWO KEY DINNERS. Now it's the Democrats turn to invade L.A. and Southern Calif. A week after the CA GOP finished its major semi-annual convention in Anaheim, the Demo Nat'l Committee (DNC), the CA Demo Party(CDP), the Demo Congressional Campaign Committee(DCCC) and the Demo Senate Campaign Committee(DSCC) are all in the southland for meetings, media and money -- not necessarily in that order, running from Sept. 19 to 23, including two big fundraising dinners...

...Needless to say, the L.A. news media should have a ball interviewing all the Demo politicians, but the public could get bored real quick, especially if the news media doesn't come up with some good questions, other than the standard, "Who's going to run against Bush in 1992?" (Pres. Bush will be in L.A. Sept. 19 for a dinner for U.S. Sen. John Seymour)...

...As for the political business, the DNC under Chairman Ron Brown roll into L.A. for a 3-day meeting beginning Thursday, Sept. 19 at the Biltmore Hotel in downtown L.A. On Sept. 20 the CA Demo Party will unveil its 1992 election plans at a press briefing, followed later that day with a 6:30 p.m. reception at the same hotel...

...Now jump 120 miles south of L.A. to San Diego, where on Sept. 21 Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell and a group of Demo senators will invade CA's second largest city for a $1,000 per person dinner at a private home. For info (619)338-4550...

...But the BIGGEST bash will be on Monday, Sept. 23 when U.S. House Speaker Tom Foley and DCCC Chair Vic Fazio roll into the Beverly Hilton Hotel for a $1,000 per person dinner. Demo fundraiser Judy Levy is coordinating the dinner. Reception 6:30 p.m., dinner 7:30 p.m. For info call (213)386-8014. Stay tuned...

TRANSPORTATION CONFERENCE SET FOR OCT. 27. A major 3-day conference and trade show featuring top TRANSPORTATION officials from Calif. and U.S. is set for L.A.'s Sheraton Universal Hotel, Oct. 27-29. Conference theme is "New Transportation for a New Century." Among the confirmed speakers are Walt Disney CEO/chair Michael Eisner; So. Calif. Gas Co. CEO/chair Richard Farman; SCE Corp. CEO/chair John Bryson; Caltrans director James van Loben Sels; Assembly Transp. Comm. chair Richard Katz; Calif. Transp. Commission chair, Sen. Bill Leonard; and LACTC exec. director Neil Peterson. The conference trade show is free and is open to the public. For more info about the conference, contact Monique Moret at Cerrell Assoc. (213)466-3445...

GAY BILL HEADED FOR GOV. WILSON'S DESK. AB 101 got State Senate approval Sept. 11 and now returns briefly to the Assembly for concurrence with amendments. From there it goes to Gov. Pete Wilson(R), who faces a tough decision. If Wilson signs AB 101, the religious right will go for a June 1992 referendum. If Wilson vetoes AB 101, then militant gays say they will OUT members of his staff. A real political quagmire...

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- LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT with background in advocacy at L.A. City Hall and L.A. County Board of Supervisors, political reporting, community relations, and events planning desires part-time position. Flexible hours and days. Excellent references available. Call (213)858-6580...

- NEEDED: SENIOR ACCOUNT Executive for busy Political/Community Relations company. Political campaign experience a plus. Call/write: Laura Olhasso, The Wessell Company, 4444 Riverside Drive, Suite 301, Burbank, CA 91505. (818)567-0938...

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